

February 20, 2020

Dear Hydrographic Colleagues of the US-Canada Hydrographic Commission,

I am pleased to contact you on the occasion of the upcoming USCHC-43 and provide an update on the most recent additions to the IHO Data Centre for Digital Bathymetry (DCDB) and announce the release of edition 2.0.3 of IHO Publication B-12 “Guidance on Crowdsourced Bathymetry” (2020).<sup>1</sup>

As you are aware, Seabed 2030 is in its third year since launch and I am excited to report notable progress has been achieved in the expansion of data coverage of the world's oceans from 6% to 15%! The DCDB and the Seabed 2030 Regional Data Assembly and Coordination Centers (RDACCs) work closely together to ensure the archiving of and access to bathymetric data throughout the global oceans. Data contributions made to the IHO DCDB, or through RDACCs to the IHO DCDB, are assembled and integrated into the freely available GEBCO Global Ocean Map. We envision the RHCs and RDACCs working closely together on matters of coordination to ensure that all efforts are complementary. The USCHC covers a large, active and important region of the globe. Within the Seabed 2030 project, two RDACC’s support efforts in your region: Atlantic & Indian Oceans and Arctic & North Pacific Oceans.

For your consideration, we have reviewed the bathymetric data held and referenced in the DCDB in the USCHC Region commensurate with IHO INT Region A. The attached summary highlights (1) recent multibeam bathymetric data contributions from January 2019 to present, (2) crowdsourced bathymetry data, and (3) bathymetric ship coverage of data holdings from CHS and Natural Resources Canada.

In recent conversations with hydrographic colleagues of the IHO and national hydrographic offices, it has been acknowledged that RHC recommendations on ways to support “data discovery” efforts would be highly valuable. RHC’s have unique expertise with insights and knowledge of existing bathymetric data holdings or repositories that could potentially make important contributions to their RDACC and/or IHO DCDB holdings for Seabed 2030.

I welcome learning the results of your meeting, ideas you may have toward future Seabed 2030 and crowdsourced bathymetry collaborations, and any way the IHO DCDB may be of assistance in your work.

Sincerely,



Jennifer Jencks

Director of the IHO Data Centre for Digital Bathymetry  
NOAA's National Centers for Environmental Information  
325 Broadway, Boulder, Colorado USA 80305  
[bathydata@iho.int](mailto:bathydata@iho.int)  
Tel: (303) 497-6419

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<sup>1</sup> Available at [https://iho.int/uploads/user/pubs/bathy/B\\_12\\_Ed2.0.3\\_2020.pdf](https://iho.int/uploads/user/pubs/bathy/B_12_Ed2.0.3_2020.pdf)

Figure 1: **Multibeam** bathymetric ship tracks (green lines) of data contributed to the IHO DCDB since January 2019 in the USCHC Region.

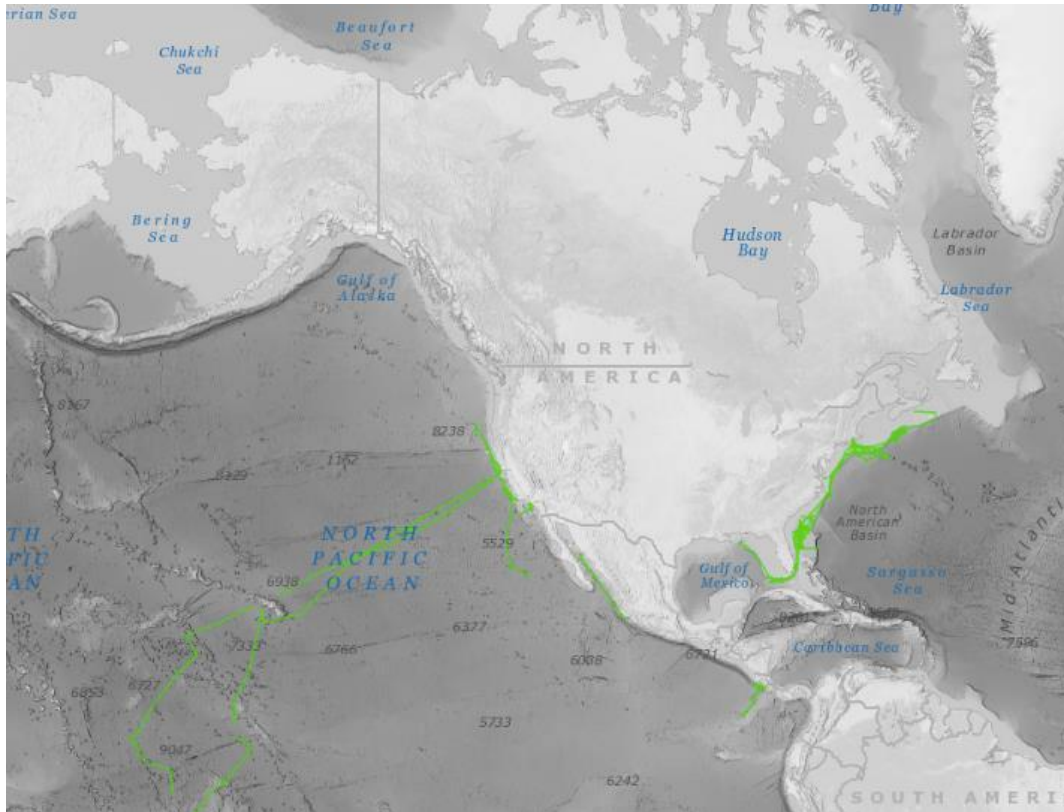


Table A: Information on **multibeam** bathymetry data contributed to the IHO DCDB since January 2019. *UNOLS R2R is the organization that manages data collected from the US University fleet. AIO = Atlantic Indian Ocean, NPO = North Pacific Ocean*

Data Contributor	Cruise ID	RDACC
NOAA	EX1902	AIO
NOAA	EX1903L1	AIO
NOAA	EX1903L2	AIO
NOAA	EX1904	AIO
NOAA	EX1905L1	AIO
NOAA	EX1905L2	AIO
NOAA	EX1906	AIO
NOAA	EX1907	AIO
Fugro	FD190006	AIO
UNOLS R2R	FK190315	NPO
UNOLS R2R	NA105	NPO
UNOLS R2R	NA106	NPO
UNOLS R2R	NA107	NPO
UNOLS R2R	NA108	NPO
UNOLS R2R	NA109	NPO
UNOLS R2R	NA110	NPO
UNOLS R2R	NA112	NPO
UNOLS R2R	NA114	NPO
UNOLS R2R	NA115	NPO
UNOLS R2R	NA116	NPO
UNOLS R2R	NA117	NPO

Figure 2: **Crowdsourced** bathymetric ship tracks (pink/purple lines) of IHO DCDB data holdings in the USCHC Region contributed since 2016.

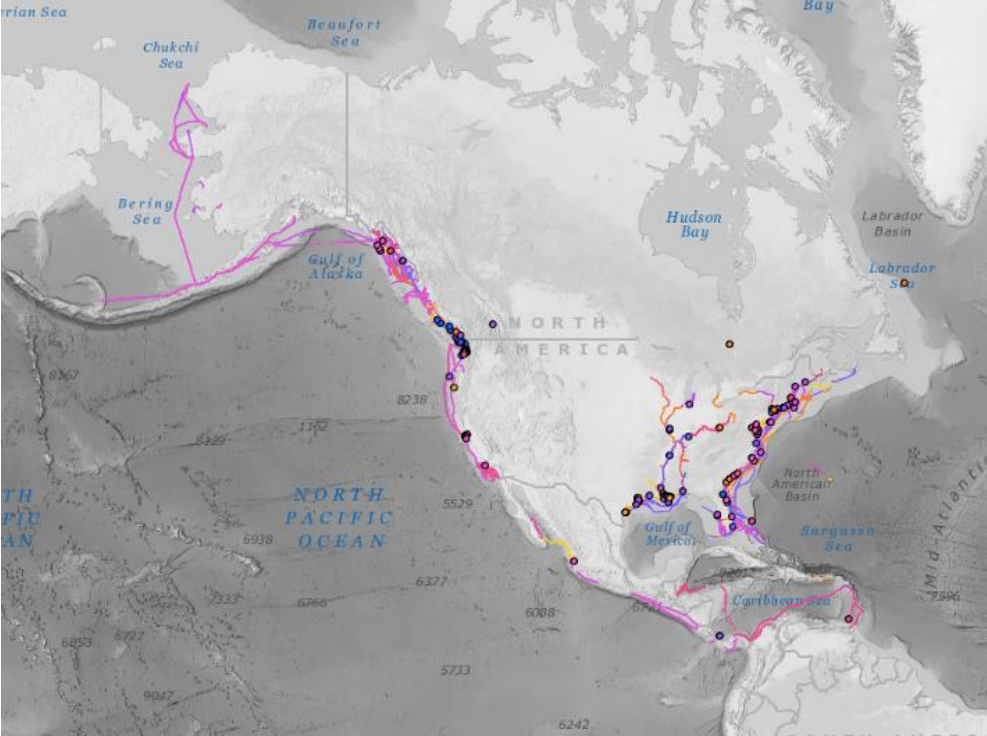


Figure 3: Bathymetric ship coverage of data holdings from CHS (NONNA-100) and Natural Resources Canada (red) displayed in the IHO DCDB map viewer via web services in the USCHC Region.

